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ABSTRACT

In January 1986, the Employment and Training Administration sponsored a special study designed to answer some of the questions about displaced workers. The principal findings of the survey included the following: a total of 10.8 million workers 20 years of age and over lost jobs because of plant closings or employment cut-backs over the January 1981-January 1986 period; of the 5.1 million workers who had lost jobs at which they had worked at least 3 years, about two-thirds were reemployed as of January 1986; close to 18 percent of those displaced were unemployed when surveyed in January 1986; of the 3.4 million workers who found work following displacement, 2.7 million were working at full-time wage and salary jobs with more than half of those reemployed earning as much or more in their new jobs as in their lost jobs; about 2 of 3 displaced workers were men; the geographic distribution of displaced workers was heavily concentrated in the East North Central states; more than 1 of 3 workers over 55 years of age left the labor force after losing their jobs; and reemployment was more difficult for Black and Hispanic workers. (Twelve supplementary data tables are included in the appendices.) (CML)

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Displaced Workers, 1981–85

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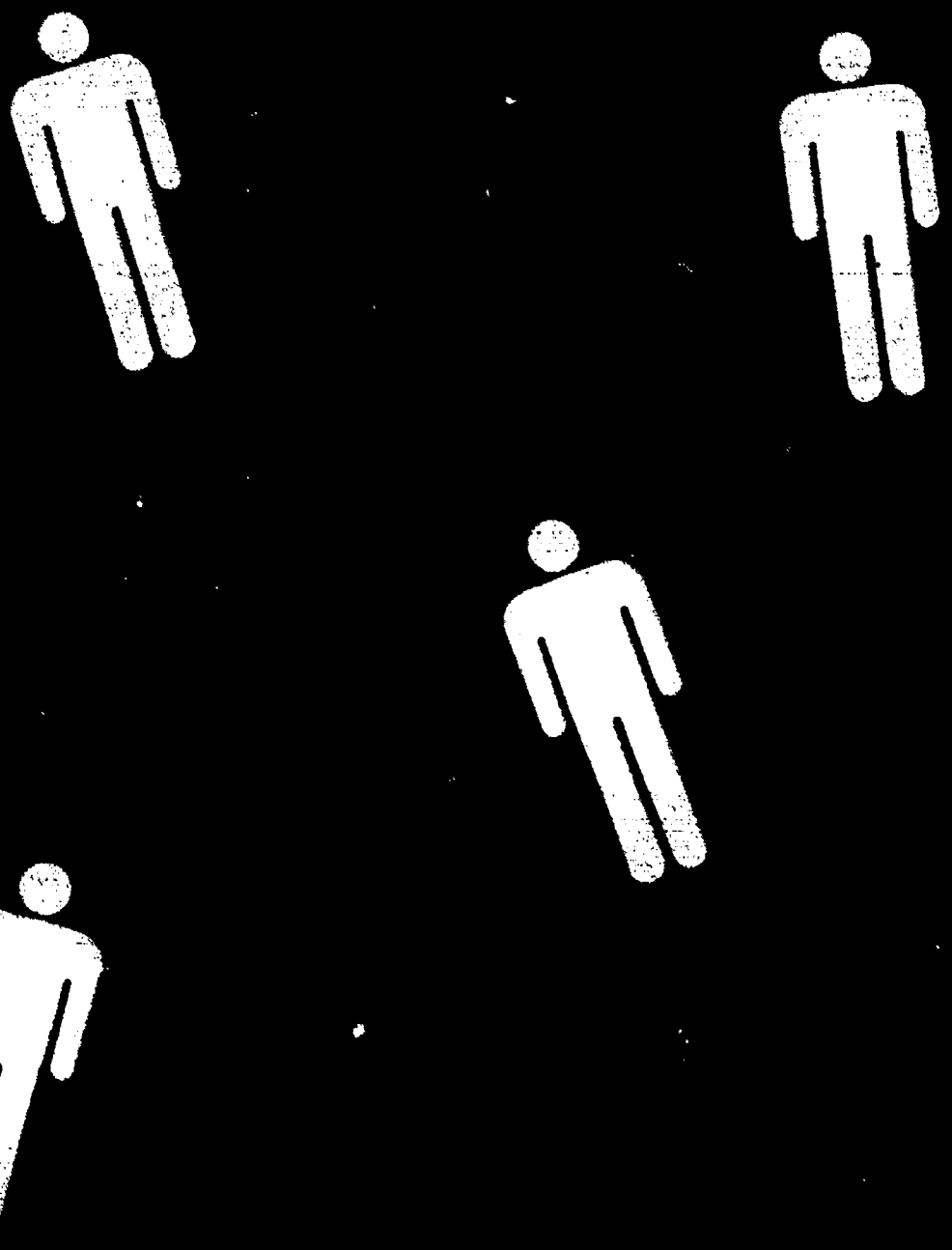

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Displaced Workers, 1981-85

U.S. Department of Labor
William E. Brock, Secretary

Bureau of Labor Statistics
Janet L. Norwood, Commissioner
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Bulletin 2289

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Preface

This bulletin discusses the plight of workers who were displaced from their jobs because of plant closings or employment cutbacks during the January 1981-January 1986 period. The article was initially published in the *Monthly Labor Review*, June 1987, and is reprinted with additional tabular material and an explanatory note.

The data were compiled from a special survey conducted in January 1986 as a supplement to the Current Population Survey (CPS) which is conducted and tabulated by the Bureau of Census for the Bureau of Labor Statistics.

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Contents

The pulse of economic change: displaced workers of 1981–85

Of the 5.1 million workers who had lost jobs at which they had worked at least 3 years, about two-thirds were reemployed as of January 1986

FRANCIS W. HORVATH

One of the harsh realities of economic change is the closing of plants or the severe cutbacks in their operations. The mass layoffs create instant pockets of unemployment, often made up of people with years of dedicated service and acquired skills and no place to apply them. The ability of these workers to readjust after plant closings or large cutbacks has been a subject of considerable interest to policymakers, labor leaders, and economic analysts.

In January 1986, the Employment and Training Administration sponsored a special supplement to the Current Population Survey designed to answer some of the questions about "displaced workers." The survey was almost identical to a study conducted in January 1984, which permitted additional insight into the problem.[1] The principal findings of the survey include:

- A total of 10.8 million workers 20 years of age and over lost jobs because of plant closings or employment cutbacks over the January 1981–January 1986 period. Those who had been at their jobs at least 3 years numbered about 5.1 million. This estimate was very similar to that obtained in the 1984 survey, which had covered the 1979–83 period.
- While both surveys yielded about the same number of displaced workers with at least 3 years of tenure on the lost jobs, the reemployed proportion was much higher in 1986 than in 1984–67, compared with 60 percent.
- Close to 18 percent of those displaced were unemployed when surveyed in January 1986. This was an improvement over 1984, when 26 percent of those displaced were looking for work.
- The number of labor force exits among displaced workers was very close to the 14-percent level observed in 1984. More than 1 of every 3 older workers (over 55 years of age) left the labor force after losing their jobs.
- Of the 3.4 million workers who found work following the displacement, 2.7 million were working at full-time wage and salary jobs. More than half of those reemployed earned as much or more in their new jobs as in their lost jobs.
- About 2 of 3 displaced workers were men.
- The geographic distribution of displaced workers was again heavily concentrated in the East North Central States. More than 1.1 million workers there had lost jobs since 1981.
- Following displacement, reemployment was more difficult for black and Hispanic workers. The percentage of those who were reemployed as of January 1986 was about 10 percentage points lower than the comparable level for whites.

Measurement of displacement

Interest in the issue of displaced workers increased in the early 1980's, as two back-to-back recessions led to the elimination of many jobs.[2] Indications that the cutbacks in many industries might be permanent rather than cyclical spurred an effort to better identify those workers who had lost their jobs. The terms "displaced" or "dislocated" were used to describe workers who had put in years of service and acquired very specific skills, only to find that those skills were no longer in demand.

As noted above, only a small proportion of the displaced were unemployed when surveyed. In fact, many may have

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found another job rather quickly, although it may not have been at a pay and skill level comparable to the one from which they had been displaced. A frequently mentioned example of a displaced worker is the steel or automobile worker, who had been employed at a relatively high paying production job and who, upon losing that job, finds little prospect of replacing the earnings to which he—and his family—had become accustomed.

Some displaced workers might give up looking for work altogether, believing that there are no suitable jobs available. Unplanned early retirements often seem to be the only choice for many of the older displaced workers.

Altogether, a total of 10.8 million workers 20 years of age and over answered that they had lost a job between January 1981 and January 1986 because of plant closings, employers going out of business, or layoffs from which they had not been recalled. However, a large proportion of these workers had been at their jobs for only a short period before they were dismissed. For example, about 4 million—or 37 percent—had been at their jobs a year or less.

In order to focus on those displaced workers who had spent a substantial amount of time with their employer, while presumably acquiring a substantial amount of job-specific skills, the statistical universe used in this study was limited to those individuals with 3 years or more of tenure on the jobs they lost, some 5.1 million.

Demographic characteristics

About two-thirds of the 5.1 million displaced workers were men, and most were in the prime working ages, 25 to 54. (See table 1.) These men were not only the largest group of displaced workers, they also had the highest level of reemployment; over three-fourths of them were reemployed in January 1986.

Blacks accounted for 11 percent of all displaced workers, and there were nearly as many black women as there were men. Also, the level of reemployment was just under 58 percent for both black men and women.

Following displacement, women were much more likely to leave the labor force than men. Almost 1 in 4 white women and 1 in 5 black women who had been displaced were outside the labor force in January 1986. The proportion of labor force leavers was nearly 1 of 3 for Hispanic women.

Black and Hispanic displaced workers were more likely to be unemployed in January 1986 than whites. About 36 percent of black men and 28 percent of Hispanic men who had been displaced were unemployed compared with 17 percent of white men.

Industry and occupation. As was found in the 1984 survey, about one-half of the displaced workers in January 1986 had lost jobs in manufacturing. The industries in which much of the displacement had taken place included nonelectrical machinery, electrical machinery, and primary metals. (See table 2.)

By January 1986, the rate of reemployment among manufacturing workers had improved considerably relative to 1984. About 2 of 3 workers displaced from manufacturing had found new jobs as of January 1986, a rate of reemployment quite similar to that for workers who had lost jobs in other industries. In the 1984 survey, the reemployment rate for manufacturing workers was much lower—59 percent.

The services industry accounted for about 10 percent of the displaced workers. This proportion was relatively small considering that these workers accounted for over 30 percent of all employed workers. Also, more than 2 of 3 service workers who had been displaced were able to find new jobs as of January 1986.

The largest number of displaced workers—some 1.9 mil-

Table 1. Employment status of displaced workers by age, sex, race, and Hispanic origin, January 1986
[In percent]

Characteristic	Number (thousands)[1]	Total	Employed	Unemployed	Not in the labor force
Total					
Total, 20 years and over	5,130	100.0	66.9	17.8	15.3
20 to 24 years	222	100.0	69.1	23.2	7.7
25 to 54 years	3,950	100.0	72.5	18.1	9.4
55 to 64 years	769	100.0	47.4	17.6	35.0
65 years and over	169	100.0	23.4	4.3	72.4
Men					
Total, 20 years and over	3,321	100.0	70.9	18.6	10.5
20 to 24 years	146	100.0	74.1	20.4	5.5
25 to 54 years	2,606	100.0	76.1	19.6	4.4
55 to 64 years	492	100.0	50.2	15.3	34.5
65 years and over	87	100.0	24.5	6.2	69.3
Women					
Total, 20 years and over	1,810	100.0	59.6	16.2	24.1
20 to 24 years	76	100.0	59.6	28.7	11.8
25 to 54 years	1,345	100.0	65.7	15.2	19.0
55 to 64 years	397	100.0	43.1	21.2	35.8
65 years and over	82	100.0	22.2	2.2	75.6
White					
Total, 20 years and over	4,452	100.0	68.2	16.2	15.6
Men	2,936	100.0	72.4	16.8	10.8
Women	1,516	100.0	59.9	15.2	24.9
Black					
Total, 20 years and over	581	100.0	57.7	29.2	13.1
Men	312	100.0	57.6	36.0	6.3
Women	268	100.0	57.7	21.3	21.0
Hispanic origin					
Total, 20 years and over	311	100.0	56.8	27.2	16.1
Men	208	100.0	63.7	27.9	8.4
Women	103	100.0	42.3	25.9	31.8

[1] Data refer to persons with tenure of 3 years or more who lost or left a job between January 1981 and January 1986 because of plant closings or moves, slack work, or the abolishment of their positions or shifts.

NOTE: Detail for the above race and Hispanic-origin groups will not sum to totals because data for the "other races" group are not presented and Hispanics are included in both the white and black population groups.

Table 2. Employment status of displaced workers by industry and class of worker of lost job, January 1986
(In percent)

Industry and class of worker	Number (thousands)[1]	Total	Employed	Unemployed	Not in the labor force
Total, 20 years and over[2]	5,139	100.0	68.9	17.8	15.3
Nonagricultural private wage and salary workers	4,772	100.0	67.2	17.6	15.2
Mining	175	100.0	67.4	17.4	15.2
Construction	316	100.0	74.8	16.6	8.6
Manufacturing	2,559	100.0	65.9	18.2	15.9
Durable goods	1,691	100.0	66.7	18.9	14.4
Lumber and wood products	104	100.0	67.0	23.2	9.8
Furniture and fixtures	63	100.0	(3)	(3)	(3)
Stone, clay, and glass products	87	100.0	64.7	17.3	17.9
Primary metal industries	235	100.0	62.0	15.0	23.0
Fabricated metal products	187	100.0	64.1	24.8	11.0
Machinery, except electrical	361	100.0	71.9	18.6	9.5
Electrical machinery	255	100.0	54.9	23.2	21.9
Transportation equipment	280	100.0	74.3	16.7	8.9
Automobiles	148	100.0	70.2	21.1	8.7
Other transportation equipment	112	100.0	79.8	11.0	9.2
Professional and photographic equipment	73	100.0	(3)	(3)	(3)
Other durable goods industries	66	100.0	(3)	(3)	(3)
Nondurable goods	868	100.0	64.3	15.8	18.9
Food and kindred products	178	100.0	57.1	19.5	23.4
Textile mill products	123	100.0	71.2	9.6	19.0
Apparel and other finished textile products	171	100.0	51.9	18.0	30.1
Paper and allied products	36	100.0	(3)	(3)	(3)
Printing and publishing	94	100.0	69.8	14.8	15.4
Chemical and allied products	88	100.0	75.2	11.9	12.8
Rubber and miscellaneous plastics products	67	100.0	(3)	(3)	(3)
Other nondurable goods industries	66	100.0	63.4	25.9	11.3
Transportation and public utilities	366	100.0	66.9	20.0	13.1
Transportation	303	100.0	66.1	20.8	13.3
Communication and other public utilities	63	100.0	69.9	17.7	12.4
Wholesale and retail trade	669	100.0	66.3	12.4	21.3
Wholesale trade	294	100.0	74.4	12.5	13.1
Retail trade	395	100.0	60.3	12.4	27.4
Finance, insurance, and real estate	107	100.0	73.5	12.5	14.0
Services	540	100.0	68.4	21.4	10.2
Professional services	198	100.0	66.6	19.1	14.1
Other service industries	342	100.0	69.3	22.8	8.0
Agricultural wage and salary workers	141	100.0	68.0	20.9	13.1
Government workers	172	100.0	63.0	18.9	18.0
Self-employed and unpaid family workers	33	100.0	(3)	(3)	(3)

[1] Data refer to persons with tenure of 3 years or more who lost or left a job between January 1981 and January 1986 because of plant closings or moves, slack work, or the abolishment of their positions or shifts.

[2] Total includes a small number who did not report industry or class of worker.

[3] Data not shown where base is less than 75,000.

lion—were formerly employed as operators, fabricators, and laborers, occupations which are quite prevalent in the manufacturing industries. They represented nearly 2 out of 5 displaced workers in January 1986. (See table 3.)

The higher the workers' skills, the more likely they were to have found other jobs. For example, among persons who had lost managerial and professional specialty jobs, almost 3 of 4 were reemployed in January 1986. On the other hand, fewer than 2 of 3 of the displaced operators, fabricators, and laborers had been able to find new jobs. The highest proportions of displaced workers who were still unemployed were those who had lost their jobs in the transportation and material moving occupations, as well as in the service occupations.

Regional distribution. As in January 1984, the largest concentration of displaced workers in the 1986 survey was found in the East North Central area—1.1 million. This area comprises the heavily industrialized States of Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Ohio and Wisconsin. Close to half of the job losses in this area had occurred in the durable goods manufacturing industry. (See table 4.)

But some improvement was found even in the East North Central area. About 65 percent of the area's displaced workers were employed in January 1986, compared with only about half in January 1984. However, among those still unemployed, almost one-third had been without work for 6 months or more.

Reemployment was much higher for displaced workers on the Atlantic and Pacific coasts. In New England, for example, about 75 percent of those identified as displaced workers had found new jobs. On the Pacific coast, about 70 percent of those who had been displaced were again employed in January 1986, and among those who were still looking for work, 42 percent had been unemployed for less than 5 weeks.

Tenure on jobs lost. In order to identify workers who had formed a long term relationship with their employers, only those who had worked for 3 years more on the jobs lost were included in the detailed analysis of the data from 1984 and 1986. While persons with shorter job durations may also face hardships following plant closings, their skills are unlikely to be tied to an employer or industry.

The tenure of displaced workers on the jobs lost tends to be higher than the tenure of the overall work force. Obviously, the restriction to 3 years or more of tenure imparts an upward bias that the general tenure level does not have. In addition, in declining industries, workers with the least tenure are likely to be released first. Should the plant

Table 3. Employment status of displaced workers by occupation of lost job, January 1986

[In percent]

Occupation	Number (thousands)[1]	Total	Employed	Unemployed	Not in the labor force
Total, 20 years and over[2]	5,139	100.0	66.9	17.8	15.3
Managerial and professional specialty	782	100.0	76.1	14.1	11.7
Executive, administrative, and managerial	487	100.0	72.9	16.9	11.1
Professional specialty	295	100.0	77.7	9.4	12.8
Technical, sales, and administrative support	1,135	100.0	68.0	12.8	19.2
Technicians and related support	174	100.0	76.5	11.7	11.8
Sales occupations	447	100.0	66.1	11.9	23.0
Administrative support, including clerical	504	100.0	67.5	13.9	18.5
Service occupations	254	100.0	53.5	22.6	23.9
Protective service	32	100.0	(3)	(3)	(3)
Service, except private household and protective	222	100.0	52.6	24.1	23.2
Precision production, craft, and repair	1,019	100.0	68.5	18.2	13.3
Mechanics and repairers	288	100.0	73.7	18.5	7.9
Construction trades	255	100.0	69.2	22.4	8.4
Other precision production, craft, and repair	485	100.0	65.4	15.9	18.8
Operators, fabricators, and laborers	1,870	100.0	64.0	21.4	14.6
Machine operators, assemblers, and inspectors	1,157	100.0	64.1	19.7	15.3
Transportation and material moving occupations	398	100.0	62.6	25.7	11.7
Handlers, equipment cleaners, helpers, and laborers	345	100.0	65.1	23.4	11.4
Construction laborers	51	100.0	(3)	(3)	(3)
Other handlers, equipment cleaners, helpers, and laborers	293	100.0	64.5	23.0	12.4
Farming, forestry, and fishing	80	100.0	72.1	19.1	8.9

[1] Data refer to persons with tenure of 3 years or more who lost or left a job between January 1981 and January 1986 because of plant closings or moves, slack work, or the abolishment of their positions or shifts.

[2] Total includes a small number who did not report occupation.

[3] Data not shown where base is less than 75,000.

Table 4. Employment status and area of residence in January 1986 of displaced workers by selected characteristics

[Numbers in thousands]

Characteristic	Total[1]	New England	Middle Atlantic	East North Central	West North Central	South Atlantic	East South Central	West South Central	Mountain	Pacific
Workers who lost jobs										
Total	5,130	228	720	1,149	384	744	367	610	240	648
Men	3,321	128	463	774	253	484	235	401	169	443
Women	1,810	97	260	375	131	260	132	209	71	205
Reason for job loss										
Plant or company closed down or moved	2,809	143	427	580	208	444	223	311	123	361
Slack work	1,603	48	221	468	122	197	132	219	78	194
Position or shift abolished	719	35	84	168	55	103	42	89	41	103
Industry of lost job										
Construction	358	6	27	94	35	61	34	43	25	53
Manufacturing	2,592	141	428	646	179	364	197	291	86	269
Durable goods	1,707	82	272	468	120	177	101	185	41	232
Nondurable goods	885	59	157	148	59	187	96	96	25	57
Transportation and public utilities	417	19	62	83	29	55	51	51	20	46
Wholesale and retail trade	706	22	73	184	69	96	49	80	39	114
Finance and service industries	699	34	103	119	46	102	35	91	51	107
Public administration	55	2	10	12	6	3	3	3	7	8
Other industries[2]	319	1	29	41	25	62	27	71	32	31
Employment status in January 1986										
Employed	3,432	166	442	749	269	535	249	403	174	450
Unemployed	912	22	102	233	62	104	64	103	34	108
Percent less than 5 weeks	28.4	(3)	25.6	24.9	(3)	27.1	25.4	18.3	(3)	42.1
Percent 27 weeks or more	23.8	(3)	25.6	31.0	(3)	23.2	24.2	16.4	(3)	17.9
Not in the labor force	786	35	129	167	59	106	65	109	32	90

[1] Data refer to persons with tenure of 3 years or more who lost or left a job between January 1981 and January 1986 because of plant closings or moves, slack work, or the abolishment of their positions or shifts.

[2] Includes a small number who did not report industry.

[3] Data not shown where base is less than 75,000.

NOTE: Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, and Vermont compose the New England Division; New Jersey, New York, and Pennsylvania compose the Middle Atlantic Division; Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Ohio, and Wisconsin compose the East North Central Division; Iowa, Kansas, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, and South Dakota compose the West North Central Division; Delaware, District of Columbia, Florida, Georgia, Maryland, North Carolina, South Carolina, Virginia, and West Virginia compose the South Atlantic Division; Alabama, Kentucky, Mississippi, and Tennessee compose the East South Central Division; Arkansas, Louisiana, Oklahoma, and Texas compose the West South Central Division; Arizona, Colorado, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, Utah, and Wyoming compose the Mountain Division; Alaska, California, Hawaii, Oregon, and Washington compose the Pacific Division.

Table 5. Displaced workers by age, sex, race, Hispanic origin, and tenure when job ended
(In percent)

Characteristic	Number (thousands)[1]	Total	3 to 4 years	5 to 9 years	10 to 14 years	15 to 19 years	20 years or more	Median years on last job
Total								
Total, 20 years and over	5,130	100.0	[illegible]	34.2	15.7	7.8	9.5	6.6
25 years and over	4,988	100.0	31.9	34.5	16.4	8.2	9.9	6.9
25 to 54 years	3,950	100.0	35.0	37.2	16.1	7.0	4.7	5.2
55 to 64 years	799	100.0	14.8	22.8	17.9	12.8	32.0	12.9
65 years and over	199	100.0	15.9	25.6	15.6	13.6	30.2	12.8
Men								
Total, 20 years and over	3,321	100.0	31.2	33.6	15.5	8.9	10.8	6.9
25 years and over	3,175	100.0	29.4	33.7	16.2	9.3	11.4	7.3
25 to 54 years	2,455	100.0	32.7	36.6	16.6	8.6	5.4	6.6
55 to 64 years	492	100.0	14.9	18.9	14.[illegible]	12.8	38.8	15.4
65 years and over	87	100.0	12.9	30.4	9.8	10.8	36.2	13.2
Women								
Total, 20 years and over	1,810	100.0	35.7	35.4	15.9	8.0	7.0	6.0
25 years and over	1,733	100.0	34.0	35.9	16.6	8.2	7.4	6.2
25 to 54 years	1,345	100.0	39.5	38.4	14.8	4.1	3.2	5.7
55 to 64 years	307	100.0	14.2	28.4	23.2	12.9	21.2	10.7
65 years and over	82	100.0	17.3	29.5	21.7	16.5	23.9	12.7
White								
Total, 20 years and over	4,452	100.0	32.8	33.8	15.8	8.1	10.1	6.7
Men	2,936	100.0	31.9	32.9	15.7	9.2	11.1	7.0
Women	1,516	100.0	35.5	34.9	15.5	6.9	8.1	6.0
Black								
Total, 20 years and over	581	100.0	35.1	38.8	16.0	6.2	5.9	6.2
Men	312	100.0	31.9	39.4	13.5	6.7	8.5	6.6
Women	267	100.0	38.7	34.9	18.9	5.7	1.7	5.7
Hispanic origin								
Total, 20 years and over	311	100.0	28.6	42.3	12.9	6.3	4.9	6.4
Men	208	100.0	27.7	43.9	14.5	6.3	5.6	7.3
Women	103	100.0	46.5	39.1	9.7	2.3	3.5	5.3

[1] Data refer to persons with tenure of 3 years or more who lost or left a job between January 1981 and January 1986 because of plant closings or moves, slack work, or the abolishment of their positions or shifts.

NOTE: Detail for the above race and Hispanic-origin groups will not sum to totals because data for the "other races" group are not presented and Hispanics are included in both the white and black population groups.

ultimately close its doors, those with longer tenure are likely to be still on the job when the decision to shut down is made.

The 5.1 million displaced workers can be divided into three roughly equivalent groups on the basis of their job tenure. About one-third had been on their jobs for 3 to 4 years, one-third for 5 to 9 years, and the remaining third for 10 years or more. Median tenure on the lost jobs was 6.6 years. (See table 5.)

The proportion of older workers displaced from jobs of long tenure was noticeably higher in 1986 than in 1984. In the 1986 survey, it was found that nearly two-fifths of the displaced men age 55 and over had lost jobs which they had held for 20 years or more.

Before, during, and after displacements

Notification of dismissal. An important issue in debates surrounding plant closing legislation has been the question of advance notification of workers about to be laid off. It is argued that advance notification allows the workers a better chance of finding new jobs by possibly beginning their job search efforts while still employed. On the other hand, advance notice is viewed unfavorably by some employers, who fear the anger of disgruntled employees and the possible reduction in productivity.[3]

In both the 1984 and 1986 surveys, a question was asked regarding whether the displaced worker had received an advance notice, or had left the business because he or she expected to be released.[4] About 45 percent of the displaced workers in the 1986 survey said they had not received notification prior to displacement. (See table 6.) Among those affected by plant closings or moves, about 40 percent neither were notified in advance nor had anticipated the closing.

Among the workers who had received an advance notice or had expected an impending closing, the proportion that was reemployed by January 1986 was greater than it was among those without warning of a layoff, but by a small margin—69 versus 64 percent. Among those who had been laid off because of plant closings, the difference in the reemployment rates between those with and without prenotification was even smaller.

Reasons for dismissals. More than half of the 5.1 million displaced workers reported that they had lost their jobs be-

cause of plant closings or moves. (See table 7.) About one-third offered "slack work" as the reason for their dismissals. The remaining persons reported that they had been working on jobs or shifts which were abolished.

The reasons offered for the dismissals were closely related to age, with older workers more likely to be affected by plant closings. For example, about two-thirds of the workers age 55 and over were dismissed because of plant closings, while only about half of those age 25 to 34 were released for this reason. It is likely that seniority would offer older workers some protection against dismissal during periods of "slack work," whereas they would have no protection if the plant closed down.

Weeks without work. Displaced workers were asked to estimate the number of weeks they were without work following job loss. The median period for the entire 5.1 million was about 18 weeks. It should be noted that, for many persons, this included periods spent outside the labor force. For example, displaced workers who were not in the labor force in January 1986 reported the longest spells without work, typically stretching over a year in length. (See table 8.) For these persons, the time spent "out of work" cannot be equated with unemployment, the latter condition implying jobseeking.

Displaced workers who were employed in January 1986 reported a much shorter period without work, the median being 13 weeks. About 1 of every 3 reemployed displaced workers had spent less than 5 weeks without work.

When surveyed, unemployed displaced workers had been jobless for a median duration of 21 weeks. This group and displaced older persons were more likely to report longer periods without work than were younger persons.

The measurement of "weeks without work" presents a difficult challenge. For example, for the reemployed the reporting may relate to a period in the distant past, the length of which is only vaguely remembered. For the unemployed, the spell of joblessness may still be in progress and could possibly last much longer than reported in the survey. And, as already noted, for persons outside the labor force, the "weeks without work" could relate to periods which, although long, might have included few, if any, attempts to find another job.

Receipt of unemployment insurance. For many displaced workers, loss of income was cushioned by their receipt of

Table 8. Displaced workers by age, whether they received advanced notice or expected layoff, selected reason for job loss, and employment status in January 1986
[Percent distribution]

Characteristic	Total who lost jobs					Plant or company closed down or moved				
	Total (thousands)[1]	Employment status, January 1986				Total (thousands)[1]	Employment status, January 1986			
		Total	Employed	Unemployed	Not in the labor force		Total	Employed	Unemployed	Not in the labor force
Total, 20 years and over										
Total	5,130	100.0	66.9	17.8	15.3	2,809	100.0	68.7	15.2	16.2
Received advanced notice or expected layoff	2,812	100.0	69.0	16.3	14.7	1,554	100.0	69.8	14.7	15.4
Left before job ended	367	100.0	73.9	7.5	18.6	240	100.0	70.8	10.8	17.9
Did not leave before job ended	2,445	100.0	68.1	17.7	14.1	1,421	100.0	69.7	15.3	15.0
Did not receive advance notice or expect layoff	2,318	100.0	64.4	19.5	16.0	1,145	100.0	66.9	15.9	17.2
20 to 24 years										
Total	1,864	100.0	75.1	16.3	8.6	947	100.0	79.6	13.5	7.0
Received advanced notice or expected layoff	1,080	100.0	76.9	15.5	7.6	598	100.0	80.3	13.7	6.0
Left before job ended	132	100.0	84.1	9.1	6.8	92	100.0	84.8	10.9	5.4
Did not leave before job ended	948	100.0	75.8	16.5	7.7	508	100.0	79.4	14.2	6.1
Did not receive advance notice or expect layoff	784	100.0	72.4	17.5	9.9	349	100.0	78.5	13.2	8.6
25 to 54 years										
Total	2,309	100.0	70.2	20.0	9.8	1,240	100.0	72.2	17.7	10.1
Received advanced notice or expected layoff	1,235	100.0	72.9	17.3	9.7	709	100.0	74.7	15.1	10.2
Left before job ended	179	100.0	83.2	7.8	8.9	105	100.0	75.2	12.4	12.4
Did not leave before job ended	1,046	100.0	71.0	18.9	9.9	602	100.0	74.4	15.8	9.8
Did not receive advance notice or expect layoff	1,074	100.0	67.0	23.1	10.0	532	100.0	68.8	21.2	10.0
55 years and over										
Total	958	100.0	43.2	15.2	41.5	621	100.0	44.9	12.6	42.5
Received advanced notice or expected layoff	497	100.0	41.9	15.7	42.5	307	100.0	42.9	15.4	41.7
Left before job ended	76	100.0	32.9	5.3	61.8	43	100.0	[2]	[2]	[2]
Did not leave before job ended	421	100.0	43.5	17.6	39.0	314	100.0	44.6	16.2	39.5
Did not receive advance notice or expect layoff	460	100.0	44.6	14.8	40.7	284	100.0	47.7	8.7	43.6

[1] Data refer to persons with tenure of 3 years or more who lost or left a job between January 1981 and January 1986 because of plant closings or moves, slack work, or the abolishment of their positions or shifts.

[2] Data not shown where base is less than 75,000

unemployment insurance benefits. About 3.4 million workers reported receiving unemployment benefits after they had lost their jobs.

One reason why some displaced workers do not collect unemployment insurance benefits is that some of them are able to find new jobs quickly or even immediately after their job loss. Almost 1 in 3 who were employed in January 1986 reported that they had been without work less than 5 weeks.

Moving to another area. Few displaced workers moved to other areas following the loss of their jobs. (See table 9.) For the 14 percent who moved, the reemployment rate was significantly higher than for those who did not move—82 versus 64 percent.

There was a pronounced difference in the relocation activity of men and women. The proportion of displaced men who had moved was almost twice as high as that of women.

Older displaced workers were least likely to pull up stakes after losing their jobs. Of those age 55 and over, only about 5 percent had moved to another city or county. Among displaced women, only about 3 percent of those age 55 and over had moved subsequent to the job loss.

Loss of health insurance. The loss of group health insurance which usually accompanies a job loss can deal a financial blow to workers.[5] Of the displaced workers surveyed in January 1986, almost 80 percent had been included in a group health insurance plan on their lost jobs. (See table 10.) For these workers, recovery of coverage was closely related to employment status: those who found new jobs were usually covered by some form of insurance, either through their new jobs or through the plans of other family members. Only about 1 in 5 of the reemployed workers were not covered in their new jobs. However, displaced workers who were unemployed in January 1986 had a much higher exposure to health cost risk; almost 60 percent of those who had been covered on the lost job no longer had any coverage when surveyed.

Table 7. Displaced workers by age, sex, race, Hispanic origin, and reason for job loss, January 1986
[Numbers in thousands]

Age and sex	Total[1]	Plant or company closed down or moved	Slack work	Position or shift abolished
Total				
Total, 20 years and over	5,139	2,869	1,603	719
20 to 24 years	222	126	68	28
25 to 54 years	3,950	2,082	1,339	551
25 to 34 years	1,641	821	608	212
35 to 44 years	1,326	670	460	197
45 to 54 years	983	571	270	142
55 to 59 years	467	289	101	67
60 to 64 years	322	214	61	47
65 years and over	159	108	36	15
Men				
Total, 20 years and over	3,321	1,783	1,145	393
20 to 24 years	148	85	47	14
25 to 54 years	2,695	1,337	968	391
25 to 34 years	1,091	539	451	101
35 to 44 years	899	439	338	122
45 to 54 years	616	360	179	77
55 to 59 years	286	186	68	32
60 to 64 years	196	125	41	29
65 years and over	97	50	21	16
Women				
Total, 20 years and over	1,810	1,026	458	326
20 to 24 years	76	41	21	15
25 to 54 years	1,345	724	370	250
25 to 34 years	551	280	157	111
35 to 44 years	427	231	121	75
45 to 54 years	367	211	92	64
55 to 59 years	180	113	32	35
60 to 64 years	126	89	20	18
65 years and over	62	59	14	9

[1] Data refer to persons with tenure of 3 years or more who lost or left a job between January 1981 and January 1986 because of plant closings or moves, slack work, or the abolishment of their positions or shifts.

Job spirals or new careers?

About 3.4 million of the 5.1 million displaced workers were reemployed in January 1986. Almost all of these, about 3.2 million workers, had been working at full-time wage and salary jobs when they were dismissed. Of these, 10 percent were holding part-time jobs when surveyed. An additional 8 percent were involved full time in their own businesses as self-employed or unpaid family workers.

Thus, the vast majority of those working in January 1986 had returned to full-time wage and salary employment. For about 2.4 million of these workers, earnings information was obtained for both the old and the new jobs, making it possible to compare nominal earnings. Overall, about 56 percent were making as much or more than before displacement. More than half of that proportion were earning 20 percent or more above pay in their previous job. (See table 11.)

Occupational displacement. A major concern regarding displaced workers is that they will be unable to use the hard-earned skills they had acquired in the jobs they lost. Besides earnings comparisons, another way to examine the changes forced upon displaced workers is to examine their occupational mobility.

The major occupational groupings and the percent of workers within each group who were able to find new jobs in the same broad occupational classification are shown in table 12. Of the displaced workers who were reemployed in January 1986, 45 percent were working in the same general occupation they had left.

For most of the occupational groups shown, the proportion returning to jobs in the same broad occupation they had left ranged between 30 and 60 percent. The lowest rates of occupational stability across the old and new jobs were found in the occupations of technicians and related support, and handlers, equipment cleaners, helpers, and laborers. Some of these workers may have found better jobs than the ones they had lost. Professional specialty and precision production, craft, and repair occupations had the highest levels of reemployment within the same broad occupation.

Table 8. Displaced workers[1] by weeks without work, age, and employment status, January 1986

(Numbers in thousands)

Age and employment status, January 1986	Weeks without work					
	Less than 5 weeks	5 to 14 weeks	15 to 26 weeks	27 to 52 weeks	More than 52 weeks	Median weeks without work
Total:						
Age 20 and over	1,371	883	791	893	979	18.3
25 to 54 years	1,089	734	634	674	884	16.5
25 to 34 years	464	333	277	280	238	13.4
35 to 44 years	352	233	200	270	213	17.4
45 to 54 years	273	167	157	144	212	20.1
55 years and over	211	101	109	183	308	32.8
Employed:						
Age 20 and over	1,103	628	533	605	424	12.5
25 to 54 years	832	526	446	495	347	12.4
25 to 34 years	406	254	195	200	140	12.2
35 to 44 years	302	174	142	205	114	14.1
45 to 54 years	224	98	110	89	93	12.5
55 years and over	113	65	57	91	74	20.7
Unemployed:						
Age 20 and over	157	191	194	151	187	20.5
25 to 54 years	122	167	155	114	137	19.9
25 to 34 years	39	62	68	34	37	17.0
35 to 44 years	42	49	46	56	52	24.1
45 to 54 years	40	55	41	24	48	16.9
55 years and over	26	16	25	26	45	30.2
Not in the labor force:						
Age 20 and over	111	64	64	137	368	53.8
25 to 54 years	36	41	33	65	180	54.3
25 to 34 years	19	17	14	28	61	52.6
35 to 44 years	8	10	11	9	47	61.7
45 to 54 years	8	15	7	30	71	67.7
55 years and over	71	20	28	67	189	54.8

[1] Data refer to persons with tenure of 3 years or more who lost or left a job between January 1981 and January 1986 because of plant closings or moves, slack work, or the abolishment of their positions or shifts.

Table 9. Displaced workers[1] by whether they moved to a different city or county to find or take another job, age, sex, and current employment status

(In thousands)

Age and sex	Nonmovers				Movers			
	Total	Employment status, January 1986			Total	Employment status, January 1986		
		Employed	Unemployed	Not in the labor force		Employed	Unemployed	Not in the labor force
Total								
Total, 20 years and over	4,395	2,831	832	733	713	582	81	51
25 to 54 years	3,318	2,340	644	333	618	510	70	37
25 to 34 years	1,330	983	221	126	302	253	31	18
35 to 44 years	1,139	826	227	86	183	154	23	7
45 to 54 years	848	531	196	121	133	104	16	13
55 years and over	992	376	141	385	51	34	5	12
Men								
Total, 20 years and over	2,756	1,884	553	321	548	455	66	28
25 to 54 years	2,119	1,571	450	98	478	403	59	16
25 to 34 years	855	664	165	26	229	198	25	6
35 to 44 years	755	571	155	29	144	122	19	4
45 to 54 years	510	335	131	44	104	83	16	6
55 years and over	525	238	74	215	41	24	5	12
Women								
Total, 20 years and over	1,637	946	279	411	165	127	15	24
25 to 54 years	1,198	770	194	234	140	107	11	21
25 to 34 years	476	318	57	100	72	55	7	11
35 to 44 years	385	255	73	57	39	32	4	3
45 to 54 years	338	197	65	77	28	21	–	7
55 years and over	377	140	67	170	10	10	–	–

[1] Data refer to persons with tenure of 3 years or more who lost or left a job between January 1981 and January 1986 because of plant closings or moves, slack work, or the abolishment of their positions or shifts.

Table 10. Displaced workers by health insurance coverage, employment status, and selected characteristics, January 1986

[Numbers in thousands]

Characteristic	Total[1]	Covered by group health insurance on lost job			Not covered on lost job
		Total	Not covered under any plan in January 1986		
			Number	Percent	
Total					
Total, 20 years and over	5,130	3,977	1,274	32.0	1,082
Employed	3,432	2,722	610	22.4	661
Unemployed	912	678	398	58.7	220
Not in the labor force	786	577	265	45.9	201
Men					
Total, 20 years and over	3,321	2,711	809	29.8	582
Employed	2,353	1,937	390	20.1	392
Unemployed	619	479	288	60.1	129
Not in the labor force	349	295	130	44.1	51
Women					
Total, 20 years and over	1,810	1,266	465	36.7	520
Employed	1,079	794	220	28.1	279
Unemployed	294	199	110	55.3	90
Not in the labor force	437	282	135	47.9	159
White					
Total, 20 years and over	4,452	3,478	1,036	29.8	916
Men	2,936	2,427	681	28.1	472
Women	1,516	1,051	356	33.9	445
Black					
Total, 20 years and over	581	437	217	49.7	134
Men	312	236	116	49.2	69
Women	268	200	101	50.5	65
Hispanic origin					
Total, 20 years and over	311	214	94	43.9	84
Men	208	149	60	40.3	49
Women	103	65	34	52.3	35

[1] Data refer to persons with tenure of 3 years or more who lost or left a job between January 1981 and January 1986 because of plant closings or moves, slack work, or the abolishment of their positions or shifts.

Table 11. Displaced workers who lost full-time wage and salary jobs and were reemployed in January 1986, by industry of lost job and characteristics of new job

[In thousands]

Industry of lost job	Total reemployed, January 1986	Part-time job	Full-time wage and salary job					Self employment or other full-time job
			Total[1]	Earnings relative to those of lost job				
				20 percent or more below	Below, but within 20 percent	Equal or above, but within 20 percent	20 percent or more above	
Total who lost full-time wage and salary jobs[2]	3,236	333	2,655	730	342	651	712	248
Construction	250	15	188	53	24	51	63	37
Manufacturing	1,857	182	1,410	432	186	333	358	85
Durable goods	1,105	106	931	300	102	216	243	68
Primary metal industries	146	13	122	54	10	*	20	11
Steel[3]	118	13	97	51	8	14	16	7
Other primary metals	29	–	24	4	2	10	4	3
Fabricated metal products	116	19	85	29	8	16	21	15
Machinery, except electrical	258	18	222	76	33	58	53	8
Electrical machinery	138	11	119	46	16	21	31	6
Transportation equipment	190	19	165	38	7	53	54	6
Automobiles	102	12	87	11	–	30	38	3
Other transportation equipment	88	6	78	27	7	24	15	3
Nondurable goods	552	58	478	131	84	117	113	17
Transportation and public utilities	257	15	217	68	28	59	37	25
Wholesale and retail trade	415	43	331	82	40	78	116	40
Finance and service industries	426	68	309	89	41	87	100	49
Public administration	34	3	28	4	4	*	9	3
Other industries[4]	197	22	162	51	19	35	30	7

[1] Data refer to persons with tenure of 3 years or more who lost or left a full-time wage and salary job between January 1981 and January 1986 because of plant closings or moves, slack work, or their positions or shifts were abolished.

[2] Includes 220 persons who did not report earnings on lost job.

[3] Includes blast furnaces, steelworks rolling and finishing mills, and iron and steel furnaces.

[4] Includes a small number who do... report industry.

Table 12. Displaced workers by selected occupations and percent reemployed in the same occupations or in service occupations, January 1986
[Numbers in thousands]

Occupation	Total[1]	Total reemployed	Percent in same occupation	Percent in service occupations
Executive, administrative, and managerial	487	351	43.0	0.2
Professional specialty	295	229	59.8	5.2
Technicians and related support	174	133	30.1	6.7
Sales occupations	447	291	45.3	6.2
Administrative support, including clerical	504	341	44.9	7.8
Service occupations	254	136	52.2	52.2
Precision production, craft, and repair	1,018	697	55.7	7.3
Machine operators, assemblers, and inspectors	1,870	767	38.6	18.4
Transportation and material moving occupations	1,197	285	45.9	11.2
Handlers, equipment cleaners, helpers, and laborers	328	225	28.7	10.7
Farming, forestry, and fishing	80	58	[2]	[2]

[1] Data refer to persons with tenure of 3 years or more who lost or left a job between January 1981 and January 1986 because of plant closings or moves, slack work, or the abolishment of their positions or shifts.
[2] Data not shown where base is less than 75,000.

It is interesting to compare the shift into service occupations found among reemployed displaced workers. Machine operators, assemblers, and inspectors, who accounted for almost one-fourth of all displaced workers, were more likely than most other workers to move into service jobs. Still, only about 18 percent of the displaced operators, assemblers, and inspectors were working in service-related occupations.

Number of jobs held since displacement. Another indicator of the stability or suitability of the new jobs is the frequency with which displaced workers change them. Numerous short-term stretches of employment or quits could indicate the difficulty of finding acceptable work. A question was added to the 1986 survey regarding the number of jobs held since displacement. About one-third of those unemployed in January and just over one-fourth of those outside the labor force had held a job at some time following their displacement. As shown in the following tabulation, nearly two-thirds of those who were employed when surveyed were working on their first and only job held since the original job loss. The remainder had, of course, held more than one job since displacement.

	Total	*Two jobs or more*	*One job*	*No jobs*
Total	100.0	29.0	48.5	22.5
Employed	100.0	36.7	63.3	—
Unemployed	100.0	16.5	18.6	64.8
Not in the labor force	100.0	10.2	18.3	71.5

Summary

The 1986 survey of displaced workers presents a more positive picture of post-displacement success than the one conducted in 1984, reflecting the effect of continued employment growth in the economy. While the overall level of displacement was little changed, the number of displaced workers who were reemployed at the time of the survey was 7 percentage points higher. The regional distribution, while still not evenly balanced across the country, improved slightly, in that the rate of reemployment in areas which had been hardest hit was now closer to the national average.

However persistent unemployment has remained among some groups. Levels of reemployment among older workers were still relatively low. Reemployment rates of women lagged behind those of men by about 10 percentage points. □

FOOTNOTES

[1] For a more detailed discussion of the findings from the first survey of displaced workers, see Paul O. Flaim and Ellen Sehgal, "Displaced workers of 1979–83: how well have they fared?" *Monthly Labor Review*, June 1985, pp. 3–16; Richard Devens, "Displaced workers: one year later," *Monthly Labor Review*, July 1986, pp. 40–43; and U.S. Congress, Office of Technology Assessment, *Technology and Structural Unemployment: Reemploying Displaced Adults*, OTA-ITE-250 (Washington, Government Printing Office, February 1986).

[2] The level of concern about displaced worker issues can be seen in Kevin Hollenbeck, Frank Pratzner, and Howard Rosen, eds., *Displaced Workers: Implications for Educational and Training Institutions* (Columbus, Ohio State University, 1984); and U.S. Congress, Congressional Budget Office, *Dislocated Workers: Issues and Federal Options* (Washington, Government Printing Office, July 1982).

[3] Additional information on advance notification is available from the Permanent Mass Layoffs and Plant Closings program. See the accompanying article by Sharon P. Brown.

[4] "Advance notice" was defined as 30 days, but the definition did not appear in the specific wording of the question asked the respondent.

[5] For another look at the loss of health benefits for displaced workers, see Michael Podgursky and Paul Swaim, "Job displacement and health insurance loss," *Monthly Labor Review*, April 1987, pp. 30–33.

Appendix A. Explanatory Note

The data presented in this report were obtained through a special survey conducted in January 1986 as a supplement to the Current Population Survey (CPS), the monthly survey of about 59,500 households which provides the basic data on employment and unemployment for the Nation. The purpose of this supplementary survey was to obtain information on the number and characteristics of workers 20 years of age and over who had been displaced from their jobs over the previous 5 years, that is, over the period from January 1981 to January 1986. This survey updates a previous supplement on displaced workers conducted in January 1984.

Concepts and Definitions

In order to identify workers who had been displaced from jobs, the survey respondents were first asked whether the household member had lost a job during the period in question because of a plant closing, an employer going out of business, a layoff from which the respondent was not recalled, or other similar reasons. If the answer to this question was "yes," the respondent was asked to identify, among the following reasons, the one which best fit the reason for the job loss:

Plant or company closed down or moved
Plant or company was operating but job was lost because of:
  Slack work
  Position or shift was abolished
  Seasonal job was completed
Self-employment business failed
Other reasons

After ascertaining the reason for the job loss, a series of questions were asked about the nature of the lost job—including the year it was lost, the years of tenure, the earnings, and the availability of health insurance. Other questions were asked to determine what transpired after the job loss such as: How long did the person go without work, did he or she receive unemployment insurance benefits, were the benefits exhausted, the number of jobs held, and, finally, did the person move after the job loss. If the person was reemployed at the time of the interview, follow-up questions were asked to determine the current earnings. And, regardless of the employment status at the time of the interview, a question was asked of all those who had been reported as having lost a job to determine whether they currently had any health insurance coverage.

As noted earlier, in tabulating the data from this survey the only workers considered to have been displaced from their jobs were those who reported job losses arising from: (1) The closing down or moving of a plant or company, (2) slack work, or (3) the abolishment of their position or shift. This means that workers whose job losses stemed from the completion of seasonal work, the failure of self-employment businesses, or other miscellaneous reasons were not included among those deemed to have been displaced. A further condition for inclusion among the displaced workers, for the purpose of this study, was tenure of at least 3 years on the lost job.

In examining the displaced workers who were unemployed in January 1986, it is important to note that not all were continually unemployed since the job loss they reported. Many, particularly those who reported job losses which occurred in 1981-82, may subsequently have held other jobs, only to find themselves unemployed once again in January 1986.

Estimating Methods

The estimation procedure used in this survey involves the inflation of the weighted sample results to independent estimates of the total civilian noninstitutional population of the United States by age, race, Hispanic origin, and sex. These independent estimates are based on updated statistics from the 1980 decennial census and the statistics on births, deaths, immigration and emigration, and the Armed Forces. The estimation procedure for the data in this report also involves a further adjustment to control weighted sample results to composited CPS estimates of employment characteristics.

Rounding of estimates

The sums of individual items may not always equal the totals shown in the same tables because of independent rounding of totals and components to the nearest thousand. Similarly, sums of percent distributions may not always equal 100 percent because of rounding. Differences, however, are insignificant.

Reliability of the estimates

Since the estimates in this report are based on a sample, they may differ somewhat from the figures that would have been obtained had a complete census been taken using the same questionnaires, instructions, and enumerators. There

are two types of errors possible in an estimate based on a sample survey—sampling and nonsampling. The standard errors provided for this report primarily indicate the magnitude of the sampling error. They also partially measure the effect of some nonsampling errors in response and enumeration, but do not measure any systematic biases in the data. The full extent of the nonsampling error is unknown. Consequently, particular care should be exercised in the interpretation of figures based on a relatively small number of cases or on small differences between estimates.

Nonsampling variability. Nonsampling errors in surveys can be attributed to many sources, e.g., inability to obtain information about all cases in the sample, definitional difficulties, differences in the interpretation of questions, inability or unwillingness of respondents to provide correct information, inability to recall information, errors made in collection such as in recording or coding the data, errors made in processing the data, errors made in estimating values for missing data, and failure to represent all units within the sample (undercoverage).

Sampling variability. The standard errors given in the following tables are primarily measures of sampling variability, that is, of the variation that occurred by chance because a sample rather than the entire population was surveyed. The sample estimate and its estimated standard error enable one to construct confidence intervals, ranges that would include the average result of all possible samples with a known probability. For example, if all possible samples were selected, each of these surveyed under essentially the same general conditions and using the same sample design, and if an estimate and its estimated standard error were calculated from each sample, then:

1. Approximately 68 percent of the intervals from one standard error below the estimate to one standard error above the estimate would include the average result of all possible samples.
2. Approximately 90 percent of the intervals from 1.6 standard errors below the estimate to 1.6 standard errors above the estimate would include the average result of all possible samples.
3. Approximately 95 percent of the intervals from two standard errors below the estimate to two standard errors above the estimate would include the average result of all possible samples.

The average estimate derived from all possible samples is or is not contained in any particular computed interval. However, for a particular sample, one can say with a specified confidence that the average estimate derived from all possible samples is included in the confidence interval.

As a general rule, summary measures such as medians, means, and percent distributions are not published when the monthly base of the measure is less than 75,000. Because of the large standard errors involved, there is little chance that summary measures would reveal useful information when computed on a smaller base. Estimated numbers are shown, however, even though the relative standard errors of these numbers are larger than those for corresponding percentages. These smaller estimates are provided primarily to permit such combinations of the categories as serve each user's needs.

In order to derive standard errors that would be applicable to a large number of estimates and could be prepared at a moderate cost, a number of approximations were required. Therefore, instead of providing an individual standard error for each estimate, generalized sets of standard errors are provided for various types of characteristics. As a result, the sets of standard errors provided give an indication of the order of magnitude of the standard error of an estimate rather than the precise standard error.

The figures presented in tables A-2 and A-3 are approximations of standard errors for various estimates. To obtain standard errors for specific characteristics other than Hispanic levels, factors from table A-1 must be applied to the standard errors given in tables A-2 and A-3 in order to adjust for the combined effect of sample design and the estimating procedure on the value of the characteristic. Standard errors for Hispanic levels should be calculated directly using the formula for the standard error of an estimated number and the parameters in table A-1. Standard errors for intermediate values not shown in the generalized tables of standard errors may be approximated by interpolation.

Two parameters (denoted "a" and "b") are used to calculate standard errors for each characteristic; they are presented in table A-1. These parameters were used to derive the standard errors in tables A-2 and A-3, and to calculate the factors in table A-1. They also may be used to calculate directly the standard errors for estimated numbers and percentages. Methods for direct computation are given in the following sections.

Standard errors of estimated numbers. The approximate standard error, σx, of an estimated number can be obtained in two ways. It may be obtained by use of the formula

$$(1) \quad \sigma x = \sqrt{ax^2 + bx}$$

where x is the size of the estimate and a and b are the parameters in table A-1 associated with the particular type of characteristic. Alternately, the standard error of an estimate may be obtained by use of the formula

$$(2) \quad \sigma x = f\sigma$$

where f is the appropriate factor from table A-1 and σ is the standard error of the estimate obtained by interpolation from table A-2. The standard errors in table A-2 were derived using formula (1) above and the total employment

parameters given in table A-1. Direct computation of the standard errors using formula (1) will give more accurate results than use of the interpolation in the standard error table.

Illustration: As indicated in table 4, there were 3,432,000 workers who lost or left a job involuntarily in the past 5 years and were employed in January 1986. From table A-1 the appropriate parameters are a = -0.000016 and b = 2,327. Using formula (1), the approximate standard error on an estimate of 3,432,000 is

$$\sigma_x \sqrt{-0.000016\ (3{,}432{,}000)^2 + 2{,}327\ (3{,}432{,}000)} \doteq 88{,}000$$

Alternatively, by interpolation in table A-2, the standard error on 3,432,000 using a factor of 1.0 and rounding to the nearest thousand is 88,000 (1.0 x 88,000).

Using the 88,000 estimate of standard error, the 68 percent confidence interval as shown by the data is from 3,344,000 to 3,520,000. Therefore, a conclusion that the average estimate derived from all possible samples lies within a range computed in this way would be correct for roughly 68 percent of all possible samples. Similarly, we could conclude with 95 percent confidence that the number of displaced workers who were currently employed in January 1986 lies within the interval from 3,256,000 to 3,608,000 (using twice the standard error).

Standard errors of estimated percentages. The approximate standard error of an estimated percentage, σ (y,p), can be computed in two ways. It may be obtained by use of the formula

$$(3)\quad \sigma\,(y,p) = \sqrt{\frac{b}{y}\,p\,(100-p)}$$

where y is the size of the subclass of persons which is the base of the percentage, p is the percentage ($0 < p < 100$), and b is the parameter in table A-1 associated with the particular type of characteristic in the numerator of the percentage. Alternately, standard errors may be approximated by use of the formula

$$(4)\quad \sigma_x = f\sigma$$

where f is the appropriate factor from table A-1 and σ is the standard error of the estimates obtained by interpolation from table A-3. The standard errors in table A-3 were computed using formula (3) above and the total employment parameters in table A-1. Direct computation of the standard errors using formula (3) will provide more accurate results than use of the standard error tables.

Illustration: Suppose that of the 5,130,000 displaced workers, 2,809,000 or 54.8 percent lost their jobs when a plant or company closed down or moved. From table A-1, the appropriate b parameter is 2,206. Using formula 3, the approximate standard error on 54.8 percent is

$$\sigma\,(x,p) = \sqrt{\frac{2{,}206}{5{,}130{,}000}\ (54.8)\ (45.2)} = 1.0$$

Alternately, by interpolation in table A-3, the standard error on 54.8 percent using a factor of 0.97 is 1.0 (0.97 x 1.05) percentage points.

Therefore, using the 1.0 estimate of standard error, the 68-percent confidence interval of the percentage of displaced workers who lost their jobs when a plant or company closed down or moved is from 53.8 to 55.8, and the 95-percent confidence interval is from 52.8 to 56.8.

Standard error of a difference. For a difference between two sample estimates, the standard error is approximately equal to

$$(5)\quad \sigma(x-y) = \sqrt{\sigma^2_x + \sigma^2_y}$$

where σx and σy are the standard errors of the estimates x and y; the estimates can be of numbers, percents, ratios, etc. This will represent the actual standard errors quite accurately for the difference between two estimates of the same characteristic in two different areas, or for the difference between separate and uncorrelated characteristics in the same area. If, however, there is a high positive (negative) correlation between the two characteristics, the formula will overestimate (underestimate) the true standard error.

Illustration: Suppose that of the 3,321,000 male displaced workers, 2,353,000 or 70.9 percent were employed in January 1986, and of the 1,810,000 female displaced workers, 1,079,000 or 59.6 percent were employed in January 1986. The apparent difference between these two groups is 11.3 percentage points. Using formula (3) and the appropriate b parameters (2,013 for males and 1,725 for females) from table A-1, the standard error on 70.9 percent with a base of 3,321,000 is approximately 1.1 percentage points, and for 59.6 percent with a base of 1,810,000 is approximately 1.5 percentage points. Using formula (5), the standard error on the estimated difference of 11.3 percentage points is approximately

$$\sigma\,(x-y) = \sqrt{(1.1)^2 + (1.5)^2} = 1.9$$

This means that the 68-percent confidence interval around the difference is from 9.4 to 13.2, and the 95-percent confidence interval is from 7.5 to 15.1. Since this interval does not include zero, we can conclude with 95-percent confidence that the percentage of male displaced workers currently employed is greater than the percentage of female displaced workers currently employed.

Table A-1. "a" and "b" parameters for computing approximate standard errors of estimated numbers, percentages, and labor force participation rates for estimates of CPS labor force data

Characteristic	a	b	f[1]
Agricultural employment:			
All races	-0.000026	3,702	1.26
Hispanic origin	-.000141	1,753	.87
All labor force data other than agricultural employment and unemployment data:			
Total	-.000016	2,327	1.00
White	-.000018	2,327	1.00
Black	-.000144	2,327	1.00
Hispanic origin	-.000109	1,241	.73
Both sexes, 16 to 19 years	-.000183	2,327	1.00
White, 16 to 19 years	-.000214	2,327	1.00
Black, 16 to 19 years	-.001262	2,327	1.00
Hispanic origin, 16 to 19 years	-.000799	1,241	.73
Men	-.000025	2,013	.93
Men, 20 years and over	-.000027	2,013	.93
White men	-.000243	2,013	.93
Black men	-.000222	1,241	.73
Hispanic-origin men	-.000030	2,013	.93
White men, 20 years and over	-.000278	2,013	.93
Black men, 20 years and over	-.000019	1,725	.86
Women, total or white	-.000021	1,725	.86
Women, 20 years and over, total or white	-.000164	1,725	.86
Black women, total or black women, 20 years and over	-.000213	1,241	.73
Hispanic-origin women			
Unemployment			
Total or white	-.000015	2,206	.97
Black	-.000151	2,536	1.04
Hispanic origin	-.000094	1,075	.68

[1] These factors are to be applied to the standard errors in tables A-2 and A-3 to compute standard errors for the given type of characteristic

NOTE: Unless otherwise indicated, parameter refer to persons 16 years of age and over

Table A-2. Standard errors for estimated numbers
(In thousand)

Size of estimate	Standard error[1]
10	5
25	8
50	11
100	15
250	24
500	34
1,000	48
2,500	76
5,000	106
7,500	129
10,000	147
15,000	177
20,000	200
30,000	235
40,000	260
50,000	276
70,000	291
100,000	270

[1] To obtain standard errors for the characteristic of interest, multiply these values by the appropriate factor provided in table A-1.

Table A-3. Standard errors for estimated percentages
(In thousand)

Base of percentage	Estimated percentage						
	1 or 99	2 or 98	5 or 95	10 or 90	15 or 85	25 or 75	50
75	1.8	2.5	3.8	5.3	6.3	7.6	8.8
100	1.5	2.1	3.3	4.6	5.4	6.6	7.6
250	1.0	1.4	2.1	2.9	3.4	4.2	4.8
500	.7	1.0	1.5	2.0	2.4	3.0	3.4
1,000	.5	.7	1.1	1.4	1.7	2.1	2.4
2,500	.3	.4	.7	.9	1.1	1.3	1.5
5,000	.2	.3	.5	.6	.8	.9	1.1
7,500	.2	.2	.4	.5	.6	.8	.9
12,000	.14	.2	.3	.4	.5	.6	.7
25,000	.10	.14	.2	.3	.3	.4	.5
50,000	.07	.10	.15	.2	.2	.3	.3
100,000	.05	.07	.11	.14	.2	.2	.2

[1] To obtain standard errors for the characteristic of interest, multiply these values by the appropriate factor provided in table A-1

Appendix B. Supplementary Tables

Table B-1. Displaced workers by year of job loss, sex, race, Hispanic origin, and employment status in January 1986

Sex, race, Hispanic origin, and year of job loss	Total[1] (in thousands)	Percent distribution by employment status in January 1986			
		Total	Employed	Unemployed	Not in the labor force
TOTAL					
Total, 20 years and over	5,130	100.0	66.9	17.8	15.3
Lost job in: 1981	775	100.0	75.7	9.2	15.2
1982	1,082	100.0	76.6	6.7	16.7
1983	949	100.0	71.6	10.9	17.5
1984	971	100.0	70.3	14.1	15.6
1985[2]	1,349	100.0	48.1	39.2	12.6
Men					
Total, 20 years and over	3,321	100.0	70.9	18.6	10.5
Lost job in: 1981	541	100.0	79.8	9.9	10.3
1982	719	100.0	82.0	7.0	11.0
1983	594	100.0	76.9	11.5	11.6
1984	606	100.0	74.9	15.2	9.9
1985[2]	857	100.0	49.1	41.0	9.9
Women					
Total, 20 years and over	1,810	100.0	59.8	16.2	24.1
Lost job in: 1981	234	100.0	66.1	7.5	26.4
1982	362	100.0	66.0	6.1	27.9
1983	365	100.0	63.1	10.0	26.9
1984	365	100.0	62.8	12.1	25.1
1985[2]	482	100.0	46.5	36.0	17.5
White					
Total, 20 years and over	4,452	100.0	68.2	16.2	15.6
Lost job in: 1981-83	2,459	100.0	75.2	7.7	17.1
1984-85[2]	1,988	100.0	59.4	26.9	13.7
Black					
Total, 20 years and over	581	100.0	57.7	29.2	13.1
Lost job in: 1981-83	297	100.0	70.1	18.0	11.9
1984-85[2]	283	100.0	44.6	41.0	14.4
Hispanic origin					
Total, 20 years and over	315	100.0	57.2	28.8	5.9
Lost job in: 1981-83	154	100.0	67.2	12.1	20.8
1984-85[2]	161	100.0	47.7	41.0	11.2

[1] Data refer to persons with tenure of 3 years or more who lost or left a job between January 1981 and January 1986 because of plant closings or moves, slack work, or the abolishment of their positions or shifts. Includes a small number of persons who did not report the year of job loss.

[2] Includes a small number of workers who lost jobs in January 1986.

NOTE: Detail for race and Hispanic-origin groups will not sum to totals because data for the "other races" group are not presented and Hispanics are included in both the white and black population groups.

Table B-2. Displaced workers by full- or part-time status on lost job, age, sex, race, Hispanic origin, and employment status in January 1986

Full- or part-time status on lost job, age, sex, race, and Hispanic origin	Total[1] (in thousands)	Percent distribution by employment status in January 1986			
		Total	Employed	Unemployed	Not in the labor force
TOTAL					
Total, 20 years and over	5,130	100.0	66.9	17.8	15.3
FULL TIME ON LOST JOB					
Total, 20 years and over	4,857	100.0	67.8	18.3	14.2
20 to 24 years	199	100.0	66.6	24.9	8.6
25 to 54 years	3,783	100.0	72.9	18.4	8.6
55 to 64 years	745	100.0	47.9	17.8	34.2
65 years and over	129	100.0	25.0	5.6	69.4
Men					
Total, 20 years and over	3,259	100.0	71.2	18.8	10.0
20 to 24 years	129	100.0	72.2	21.5	6.3
25 to 54 years	2,577	100.0	76.3	19.6	4.2
55 to 64 years	478	100.0	50.4	15.4	34.1
65 years and over	75	100.0	28.5	7.2	64.3
Women					
Total, 20 years and over	1,598	100.0	60.1	17.3	22.6
20 to 24 years	71	100.0	[2]	[2]	[2]
25 to 54 years	1,206	100.0	65.8	16.0	18.2
55 to 64 years	267	100.0	43.5	22.1	34.4
65 years and over	54	100.0	[2]	[2]	[2]
White					
Total, 20 years and over	4,199	100.0	69.0	16.7	14.2
Men	2,885	100.0	72.8	16.9	10.2
Women	1,313	100.0	60.7	16.4	23.0
Black					
Total, 20 years and over	565	100.0	57.3	29.2	13.5
Men	303	100.0	57.5	36.0	6.5
Women	262	100.0	57.2	21.3	21.6
Hispanic origin					
Total, 20 years and over	306	100.0	57.4	27.7	15.0
Men	205	100.0	64.7	28.3	7.1
Women	101	100.0	42.6	26.4	31.0
PART TIME ON LOST JOB					
Total, 20 years and over	270	100.0	54.8	9.2	36.0
Men	60	100.0	[2]	[2]	[2]
Women	210	100.0	55.8	8.4	35.8

[1] Data refer to persons with tenure of 3 years or more who lost or left a job between January 1981 and January 1986 because of plant closings or moves, slack work, or the abolishment of their positions or shifts. Includes a small number of persons who did not report their full- or part-time status on lost job.

[2] Data not shown where base is less than 75,000.

NOTE: Detail for race and Hispanic-origin groups will not sum to totals because data for the "other races" group are not presented and Hispanics are included in both the white and black population groups.

Table B-8. Displaced workers by educational attainment, sex, race, Hispanic origin, and employment status in January 1986

Educational attainment, sex, race, and Hispanic origin	Total[1] (in thousands)	Percent distribution by employment status in January 1986			
		Total	Employed	Unemployed	Not in the labor force
TOTAL					
Total, 20 years and over	5,130	100.0	66.9	17.8	15.3
Elementary school only	466	100.0	41.9	26.6	31.4
High school: 1 to 3 years	686	100.0	57.4	21.9	20.8
4 years	2,362	100.0	68.2	17.4	14.4
College: 1 to 3 years	956	100.0	73.4	16.7	9.9
4 years or more	661	100.0	80.3	10.3	9.4
Men					
Total, 20 years and over	3,321	100.0	70.9	18.6	10.5
Elementary school only	325	100.0	47.5	27.1	25.5
High school: 1 to 3 years	441	100.0	62.2	24.2	13.6
4 years	1,448	100.0	71.9	18.6	9.5
College: 1 to 3 years	629	100.0	79.4	16.0	4.6
4 years or more	477	100.0	80.3	11.3	8.4
Women					
Total, 20 years and over	1,810	100.0	59.6	16.2	24.1
Elementary school only	141	100.0	29.3	25.6	45.1
High school: 1 to 3 years	245	100.0	48.8	17.8	33.3
4 years	914	100.0	62.4	15.4	22.2
College: 1 to 3 years	326	100.0	61.8	18.0	20.2
4 years or more	184	100.0	80.1	7.7	12.2
White					
Total, 20 years and over	4,452	100.0	68.2	16.2	15.6
Less than 4 years of high school	963	100.0	51.8	22.7	25.5
4 years of high school	2,068	100.0	69.6	15.7	14.7
1 year of college or more	1,401	100.0	77.2	12.6	10.2
Black					
Total, 20 years and over	581	100.0	57.7	29.2	13.1
Less than 4 years of high school	168	100.0	45.4	31.5	23.1
4 years of high school	240	100.0	60.9	29.9	10.1
1 year of college or more	172	100.0	65.1	27.4	7.5
Hispanic origin					
Total, 20 years and over	315	100.0	57.2	26.8	15.9
Less than 4 years of high school	161	100.0	42.8	36.7	20.5
4 years of high school	71	100.0	(2)	(2)	(2)
1 year of college or more	83	100.0	80.1	8.7	11.2

[1] Data refer to persons with tenure of 3 years or more who lost or left a job between January 1981 and January 1986 because of plant closings or moves, slack work, or the abolishment of their positions or shifts.

[2] Data not shown where base is less than 75,000.

NOTE: Detail for race and Hispanic-origin groups will not sum to totals because data for the "other races" group are not presented and Hispanics are included in both the white and black population groups.

Table B-4. Displaced workers by educational attainment, sex, race, Hispanic origin, and reason for job loss

Educational attainment, sex, race, and Hispanic origin	Total[1] (in thousands)	Percent distribution by reason for job loss			
		Total	Plant or company closed down or moved	Slack work	Position or shift was abolished
TOTAL					
Total, 20 years and over	8,130	100.0	54.7	31.2	14.0
Elementary school only	488	100.0	61.1	29.9	8.9
High school: 1 to 3 years	686	100.0	63.2	29.8	7.0
4 years	2,382	100.0	56.1	31.7	12.2
College: 1 to 3 years	956	100.0	48.4	33.8	17.8
4 years or more	681	100.0	45.8	28.4	25.9
Men					
Total, 20 years and over	3,321	100.0	53.7	34.5	11.8
Elementary school only	325	100.0	58.7	32.6	8.7
High school: 1 to 3 years	441	100.0	62.5	32.1	5.4
4 years	1,448	100.0	54.6	34.6	10.8
College: 1 to 3 years	629	100.0	48.3	37.9	13.8
4 years or more	477	100.0	46.5	33.2	20.3
Women					
Total, 20 years and over	1,810	100.0	58.7	25.3	18.0
Elementary school only	141	100.0	66.7	23.9	9.4
High school: 1 to 3 years	245	100.0	64.4	25.6	10.0
4 years	914	100.0	58.6	27.1	14.3
College: 1 to 3 years	326	100.0	48.7	25.7	25.6
4 years or more	184	100.0	43.8	15.9	40.4
White					
Total, 20 years and over	4,452	100.0	54.7	30.9	14.4
Less than 4 years of high school	963	100.0	62.9	28.9	8.2
4 years of high school	2,088	100.0	55.8	31.9	12.3
1 year of college or more	1,401	100.0	47.4	30.9	21.7
Black					
Total, 20 years and over	581	100.0	53.6	33.9	12.5
Less than 4 years of high school	168	100.0	59.0	34.3	6.6
4 years of high school	240	100.0	56.1	32.2	11.7
1 year of college or more	172	100.0	44.9	35.7	19.4
Hispanic origin					
Total, 20 years and over	315	100.0	56.8	31.1	12
Less than 4 years of high school	161	100.0	60.3	30.9	7.8
4 years of high school	71	100.0	[2]	[2]	[2]
1 year of college or more	83	100.0	44.8	26.3	28.8

[1] Data refer to persons with tenure of 3 years or more who lost or left a job between January 1981 and January 1986 because of plant closings or moves, slack work, or the abolishment of their positions or shifts.

[2] Data not shown where base is less than 75,000.

NOTE: Detail for race and Hispanic-origin groups will not sum to totals because data for the "other races" group are not presented and Hispanics are included in both the white and black population groups.

Table B-5. Displaced workers by industry and class of worker of lost job and reason for job loss

Industry and class of worker of lost job	Total[1] (in thousands)	Percent distribution by reason for job loss			
		Total	Plant or company closed down or moved	Slack work	Position or shift was abolished
Total, 20 years and over	5,130	100.0	54.7	31.3	14.0
Nonagricultural private wage and salary workers	4,772	100.0	55.8	31.7	12.5
Mining	175	100.0	61.3	31.6	7.2
Construction	318	100.0	46.1	43.7	10.2
Manufacturing	2,560	100.0	56.2	32.8	11.0
Durable goods	1,691	100.0	50.3	39.3	10.4
Lumber and wood products	104	100.0	61.8	28.5	9.7
Furniture and fixtures	63	100.0	[2]	[2]	[2]
Stone, clay, and glass products	87	100.0	66.3	29.1	4.6
Primary metal industries	235	100.0	45.4	41.0	13.6
Fabricated metal products	187	100.0	48.1	39.6	12.3
Machinery except electrical	361	100.0	44.5	47.2	8.3
Electrical machinery, equipment, and supplies	255	100.0	45.7	41.7	12.6
Transportation equipment	280	100.0	51.3	40.8	7.9
Automobiles	148	100.0	60.9	29.2	9.9
Other transportation equipment	112	100.0	38.6	56.1	5.3
Professional and photographic equipment	73	100.0	[2]	[2]	[2]
Other durable goods industries	66	100.0	[2]	[2]	[2]
Nondurable goods	859	100.0	67.8	19.9	12.3
Food and kindred products	178	100.0	73.1	17.2	9.7
Textile mill products	123	100.0	62.7	26.3	11.0
Apparel and other finished textile products	171	100.0	84.6	10.7	4.7
Paper and allied products	39	100.0	[2]	[2]	[2]
Printing and publishing	94	100.0	65.3	14.7	20.0
Chemical and allied products	86	100.0	40.9	43.7	15.5
Rubber and miscellaneous plastics products	67	100.0	[2]	[2]	[2]
Other nondurable goods industries	89	100.0	76.3	10.6	13.1
Transportation and public utilities	386	100.0	52.6	31.7	15.7
Transportation	303	100.0	54.8	33.8	11.4
Communication and other public utilities	83	100.0	44.6	24.0	31.4
Wholesale and retail trade	689	100.0	62.9	22.9	14.2
Wholesale trade	294	100.0	54.0	29.1	16.9
Retail trade	395	100.0	69.5	18.3	12.2
Finance, insurance, and real estate	107	100.0	55.3	27.5	17.2
Services	540	100.0	51.5	31.3	17.2
Professional services	198	100.0	38.8	40.8	20.4
Other service industries	342	100.0	58.9	25.8	15.3
Agricultural wage and salary workers	141	100.0	43.9	30.1	26.0
Government workers	172	100.0	30.1	20.9	49.0
Self-employed and unpaid family workers	33	100.0	[2]	[2]	[2]

[1] Data refer to persons with tenure of 3 years or more who lost or left a job between January 1981 and January 1956 because of plant closings or moves, slack work, or the abolishment of their positions or shifts. Includes a small number of persons who did not report industry or class of worker.

[2] Data not shown where base is less than 75,000.

Table B-6. Displaced workers by sex, whether they received advance notice or expected layoff, reason for job loss, and employment status in January 1996

(In thousands)

Sex, and whether or not workers received advance notice or expected layoff	Total who lost jobs				Plant or company closed down or moved				All other reasons			
	Total[1]	Employment status in January 1996			Total	Employment status in January 1996			Total	Employment status in January 1996		
		Employed	Unemployed	Not in the labor force		Employed	Unemployed	Not in the labor force		Employed	Unemployed	Not in the labor force
TOTAL												
Total, 20 years and over	5,130	3,432	912	786	2,809	1,929	426	454	2,322	1,504	486	332
Received advance notice or expected layoff	2,812	1,939	459	413	1,864	1,162	245	257	1,148	777	215	157
Remained at job until it ended	2,415	1,645	428	341	1,421	990	218	213	993	655	210	128
Did not receive advance notice or expect layoff	2,318	1,493	453	372	1,145	766	182	197	1,173	727	271	175
Men												
Total, 20 years and over	3,321	2,353	619	349	1,783	1,289	282	212	1,538	1,064	337	137
Received advance notice or expected layoff	1,749	1,288	280	182	1,025	754	145	126	724	533	135	56
Remained at job until it ended	1,504	1,109	255	139	872	647	122	103	632	462	133	36
Did not receive advance notice or expect layoff	1,571	1,065	339	167	758	535	137	86	814	531	202	81
Women												
Total, 20 years and over	1,810	1,079	294	437	1,026	640	145	242	783	440	149	195
Received advance notice or expected layoff	1,063	651	180	231	839	408	100	131	424	243	80	101
Remained at job until it ended	910	536	173	202	549	343	96	111	361	193	77	91
Did not receive advance notice or expect layoff	747	428	114	205	387	232	45	111	360	196	69	94

[1] Data refer to persons with tenure of 3 years or more who lost or left a job between January 1991 and January 1996 because of plant closings or moves, slack work, or the abolishment of their positions or shifts.

Table B-7. Displaced workers by reason for job loss, whether or not they received unemployment insurance benefits, age, and employment status in January 1986

(In thousands)

Age and employment status in January 1986	Total who lost jobs			Plant or company closed down or moved			All other reasons		
	Total[1]	Received benefits		Total	Received benefits		Total	Received benefits	
		Total	For 27 weeks or more		Total	For 27 weeks or more		Total	For 27 weeks or more
TOTAL									
Total, 20 years and over	5,130	3,365	1,077	2,809	1,762	560	2,322	1,603	516
25 years and over	4,908	3,241	1,060	2,682	1,700	555	2,226	1,541	505
25 to 34 years	1,841	1,078	317	821	496	141	820	582	176
35 to 44 years	1,326	903	305	870	427	141	657	476	164
45 to 54 years	963	643	205	571	359	110	412	284	95
55 years and over	958	616	233	621	418	163	337	199	70
Employed									
Total, 20 years and over	3,432	2,162	693	1,929	1,149	362	1,504	1,033	331
25 years and over	3,279	2,096	682	1,838	1,105	358	1,440	991	324
25 to 34 years	1,245	788	232	863	384	108	582	404	124
35 to 44 years	983	651	227	506	307	108	477	344	119
45 to 54 years	637	394	124	390	231	72	247	163	52
55 years and over	414	264	99	279	183	71	134	81	28
Unemployed									
Total, 20 years and over	912	673	184	426	323	91	486	349	93
25 years and over	861	642	178	399	307	89	461	335	89
25 to 34 years	253	184	46	101	69	20	151	115	27
35 to 44 years	251	186	51	116	89	22	135	96	29
45 to 54 years	211	162	48	104	84	27	107	79	21
55 years and over	146	110	33	78	64	21	68	45	12
Not in the labor force									
Total, 20 years and over	786	510	200	454	290	108	332	221	92
25 years and over	769	503	200	445	289	108	324	214	92
25 to 34 years	144	106	38	57	43	13	87	63	25
35 to 44 years	92	67	27	48	31	11	44	36	16
45 to 54 years	135	87	33	77	44	12	59	42	22
55 years and over	398	243	101	264	171	71	134	73	30

[1] Data refer to persons with tenure of 3 years or more who lost or left a job between January 1981 and January 1986 because of plant closings or moves, slack work, or the abolishment of their positions or shifts. Includes a small number of persons who did not report whether or not they received benefits

Table B-8. Displaced workers by full- or part-time status on lost job, sex, group health insurance coverage on lost job, and employment status and coverage in January 1996

(Numbers in thousands)

Full- or part-time status, sex, and employment status in January 1996	Total[1]	Covered by group health insurance on lost job			Not covered on lost job
		Total	Not covered under any plan in January 1996		
			Number	Percent	
TOTAL					
Total, 20 years and over	5,130	3,977	1,274	32.0	1,082
Full time on lost job					
Total, 20 years and over	4,857	3,897	1,242	31.9	894
Employed	3,281	2,671	592	22.2	568
Unemployed	888	676	398	58.9	197
Not in the labor force	688	551	251	45.6	131
Men, 20 years and over	3,259	2,690	800	29.7	523
Employed	2,321	1,922	385	20.0	365
Unemployed	611	479	288	60.2	122
Not in the labor force	327	289	126	43.7	35
Women, 20 years and over	1,598	1,208	442	36.6	371
Employed	960	749	207	27.7	201
Unemployed	276	197	110	55.7	75
Not in the labor force	362	262	125	47.8	95
Part time on lost job					
Total, 20 years and over	270	76	32	41.8	189

[1] Data refer to persons with tenure of 3 years or more who lost or left a job between January 1991 and January 1996 because of plant closings or moves, slack work, or the abolishment of their positions or shifts. Includes a small number of persons who did not report full- or part-time status or health insurance coverage.

Table B-8. Displaced workers by weeks without work after job loss and other selected characteristics

(Numbers in thousands)

Characteristic	Total[1]	Weeks without work after job loss					
		Less than 5 weeks	5 to 14 weeks	15 to 26 weeks	27 to 52 weeks	More than 52 weeks	Median weeks without work after job loss
TOTAL							
Total, 20 years and over	5,130	1,584	883	791	893	979	18.3
Men	3,321	1,123	608	485	543	561	15.2
Women	1,810	460	276	305	350	418	24.9
White	4,452	1,436	778	682	747	809	16.7
Black	581	120	84	96	130	151	30.0
Hispanic origin	315	81	67	57	63	48	18.3
Full time on lost job							
Total, 20 years and over	4,857	1,502	845	762	840	908	18.1
Employed in January 1986	3,281	1,185	603	520	568	406	12.5
Unemployed in January 1986	888	183	188	185	148	184	20.7
Not in the labor force in January 1986	688	135	[2]	57	125	317	53.6
Men	3,259	1,105	6	473	533	547	15.1
Women	1,598	397	2	289	307	360	24.8
White	4,199	1,361	740	654	709	740	16.6
Black	565	115	83	96	123	149	28.8
Hispanic origin	306	80	64	54	81	47	18.0
Part time on lost job							
Total, 20 years and over	270	79	39	27	53	72	24.8
Men	60	19	7	11	10	14	[2]
Women	210	61	32	16	43	58	25.6

[1] Data refer to persons with tenure of 3 years or more who lost or left a job between January 1981 and January 1986 because of plant closings or moves, slack work, or the abolishment of their positions or shifts. Includes a small number of persons who did not report full- or part-time status or weeks without work.

[2] Data not shown where base is less than 75,000.

NOTE: Detail for race and Hispanic-origin groups will not sum to totals because data for the "other races" group are not presented and Hispanics are included in both the white and black population groups.

Table B-10. Median weekly earnings of displaced workers on lost job and on both the old and new job for those reemployed in January 1986 by industry and class of worker

(Numbers in thousands)

Industry and class of worker	Total[1]	Median weekly earnings on lost job	Workers who lost jobs in 1981-85 but were employed in January 1986		
			Total	Median weekly earnings on lost job	Median weekly earnings on job held in January 1986[2]
Total, 20 years and over	5,130	$322	3,432	$343	$304
Nonagricultural private wage and salary workers	4,772	327	3,205	347	306
Mining	175	485	118	488	365
Construction	316	359	236	424	406
Manufacturing	2,550	330	1,681	353	296
Durable goods	1,691	359	1,128	387	31/
Lumber and wood products	104	294	70	(3)	(3)
Furniture and fixtures	63	(3)	42	(3)	(3)
Stone, clay, and glass products	87	346	56	(3)	(3)
Primary metal industries	235	413	148	428	311
Fabricated metal products	187	349	120	337	286
Machinery except electrical	361	400	260	413	348
Electrical machinery, equipment, and supplies	255	328	140	372	292
Transportation equipment	260	402	193	412	348
Automobiles	148	396	104	401	399
Other transportation equipment	112	432	90	464	341
Professional and photographic equipment	73	(3)	56	(3)	(3)
Other durable goods industries	66	(3)	46	(3)	(3)
Nondurable goods	859	276	553	299	283
Food and kindred products	178	310	102	345	243
Textile mill products	123	246	88	258	222
Apparel and other finished textile products	171	209	89	213	211
Paper and allied products	39	(3)	30	(3)	(3)
Printing and publishing	94	321	65	(3)	(3)
Chemical and allied products	98	329	74	(3)	(3)
Rubber and miscellaneous plastics products	67	(3)	50	(3)	(3)
Other nondurable goods industries	88	320	55	(3)	(3)
Transportation and public utilities	386	434	258	428	395
Transportation	303	431	200	426	400
Communication and other public utilities	83	448	58	(3)	(3)
Wholesale and retail trade	689	256	457	279	293
Wholesale trade	294	313	219	318	321
Retail trade	395	212	238	242	262
Finance, insurance, and real estate	107	303	78	412	365
Services	540	274	369	293	280
Professional services	198	273	132	298	293
Other service industries	342	275	237	291	275
Agricultural wage and salary workers	141	224	93	239	237
Government workers	172	284	109	299	296
Self-employed and unpaid family workers	33	(3)	19	(3)	(3)

[1] Data refer to persons with tenure of 3 years or more who lost or left a job between January 1981 and January 1986 because of plant closings or moves, slack work, or the abolishment of their positions or shifts. Includes a small number of persons who did not report industry or class of worker.

[2] Median weekly earnings on job held in January 1986 are based only on wage and salary workers (excluding incorporated self-employed) and therefore are not directly comparable to median earnings on lost job which are based on earnings from all classes of work.

[3] Data not shown where base is less than 75,000.

Table B-11. Reemployed workers by industry of lost job and industry of job held in January 1986

Industry of lost job	Total[1] (in thousands)	Percent distribution by industry in January 1986								
		Total	Construction	Manufacturing			Transportation and public utilities	Wholesale and retail trade	Services	Other[2]
				Total	Durable goods	Nondurable goods				
Total, 20 years and over	3,432	100.0	10.3	28.7	18.2	10.5	8.6	18.3	23.1	11.0
Construction	264	100.0	44.0	5.3	2.8	2.6	12.0	10.2	20.4	6.1
Manufacturing	1,710	100.0	7.7	47.0	30.7	16.3	4.0	15.8	17.6	7.9
Durable goods	1,135	100.0	7.7	48.3	40.7	7.6	4.5	15.2	18.1	6.1
Nondurable goods	575	100.0	7.7	44.4	11.0	33.4	3.0	16.9	20.5	7.5
Transportation and public utilities	278	100.0	7.1	11.6	8.9	2.7	45.8	12.6	14.7	8.2
Wholesale and retail trade	464	100.0	7.0	11.9	5.9	6.1	6.7	39.8	24.0	10.5
Services	391	100.0	7.0	13.4	5.2	8.2	3.7	16.9	49.7	9.3
Other[2]	325	100.0	8.2	8.1	6.0	2.1	6.8	13.8	28.3	34.8

[1] Data refer to persons with tenure of 3 years or more who lost or left a job between January 1981 and January 1986 because of plant closings or moves, slack work, or the abolishment of their positions or shifts.

[2] Includes mining; finance, insurance, and real estate; public administration; and farming, forestry, and fisheries.

Table B-12. Displaced workers by selected manufacturing industry of lost job, sex, tenure when job ended, and median weeks without work after job loss

Industry of lost job and sex	Total[1] (in thousands)	Percent distribution by tenure						Median years on lost job	Median weeks without work after job loss
		Total	3 to 4 years	5 to 9 years	10 to 14 years	15 to 19 years	20 years or more		
Total, 20 years and over, all industries	5,130	100.0	32.8	34.2	15.7	7.8	9.5	6.6	18.3
Machinery except electrical:									
Total, 20 years and over	364	100.0	26.3	33.1	17.4	14.9	8.4	7.9	23.0
Men, 20 years and over	295	100.0	24.7	31.5	18.2	17.2	8.4	8.5	18.8
Women, 20 years and over	69	100.0	[2]	[2]	[2]	[2]	[2]	[2]	[2]
Primary metal industries:									
Total, 20 years and over	237	100.0	22.5	34.4	12.4	11.9	18.8	8.6	39.8
Men, 20 years and over	202	100.0	17.3	35.9	12.4	13.9	20.5	9.1	43.0
Women, 20 years and over	35	100.0	[2]	[2]	[2]	[2]	[2]	[2]	[2]
Automobiles:									
Total, 20 years and over	152	100.0	20.2	34.6	19.4	11.3	14.4	8.6	24.5
Men, 20 years and over	112	100.0	19.1	30.6	19.9	12.3	18.0	10.0	24.1
Women, 20 years and over	40	100.0	[2]	[2]	[2]	[2]	[2]	[2]	[2]
Apparel and other finished textile products:									
Total, 20 years and over	171	100.0	28.8	23.5	25.0	9.8	15.1	9.8	22.4
Men, 20 years and over	26	100.0	[2]	[2]	[2]	[2]	[2]	[2]	[2]
Women, 20 years and over	146	100.0	26.0	23.0	23.4	9.7	17.8	10.2	24.5
Textile mill products:									
Total, 20 years and over	123	100.0	33.3	24.1	21.2	7.9	17.4	7.2	25.8
Men, 20 years and over	55	100.0	[2]	[2]	[2]	[2]	[2]	[2]	[2]
Women, 20 years and over	68	100.0	[2]	[2]	[2]	[2]	[2]	[2]	[2]

[1] Data refer to persons with tenure of 3 years or more who lost or left a job between January 1981 and January 1986 because of plant closings or moves, slack work, or the abolishment of their positions or shifts.

[2] Data not shown where base is less than 75,000.

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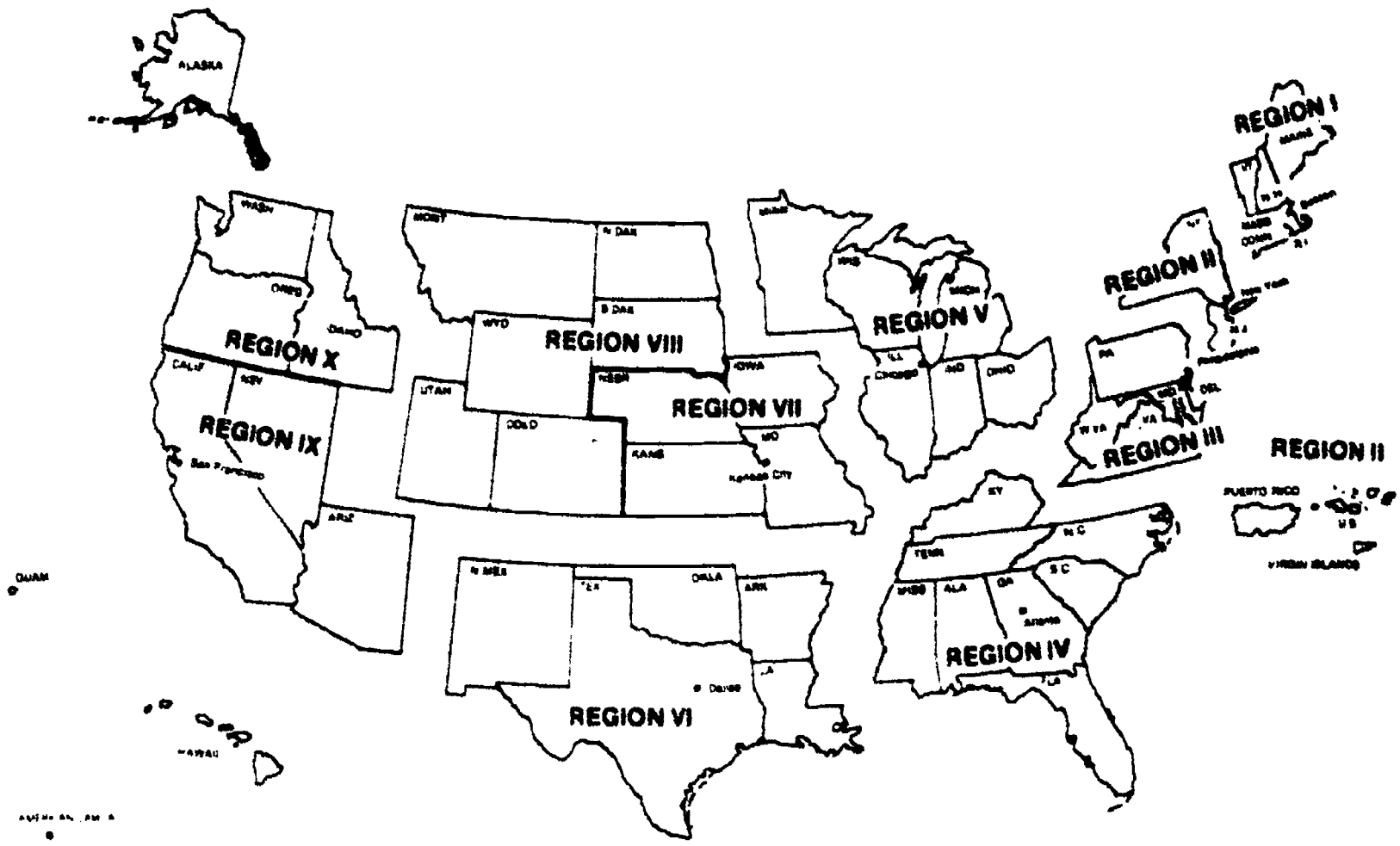

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